



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Raised Bill No. 419

LCO No. 1767

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Referred to Committee on Insurance and Real Estate

Introduced by:
(INS)

***AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE
TREATMENT OF OBESITY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2004*) Each individual health
2 insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in
3 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general
4 statutes delivered, issued for delivery, amended, renewed or
5 continued in this state on or after October 1, 2004, shall provide
6 coverage for medical nutrition therapy services ordered by a licensed
7 physician for the treatment or management of obesity. As used in this
8 section, "medical nutrition therapy services" means nutrition-related
9 diagnostic, therapy and counseling services provided by a certified
10 dietitian-nutritionist, certified dietitian or certified nutritionist; and
11 "obesity" means a body mass index greater than thirty.

12 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2004*) Each group health insurance
13 policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2),
14 (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general statutes delivered,
15 issued for delivery, amended, renewed or continued in this state on or
16 after October 1, 2004, shall provide coverage for medical nutrition

17 therapy services ordered by a licensed physician for the treatment or
18 management of obesity. As used in this section, "medical nutrition
19 therapy services" means nutrition-related diagnostic, therapy and
20 counseling services provided by a certified dietitian-nutritionist,
21 certified dietitian or certified nutritionist; and "obesity" means a body
22 mass index greater than thirty.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2004</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To require health insurance coverage for nutritional therapy for the treatment and management of obesity.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]